25-98 Claims as allowed 7/17/01

- (US5N 09/327.984) (OURTESY (OPY as allowed 7/17/01 for Examiner Walickia.

  A non-naturally occurring nucleic acid molecule comprising a portion which encodes a 1. truncated ultraviolet damage endonuclease (Uvelp), said truncated Uvelp characterized by an amino acid sequence extending from a position between 329 and 479 as given in SEQ ID NO:2 and extending through amino acid 828 of SEQ ID NO:2.
- The non-naturally occurring nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 encoding a stable 2. truncated Uvelp characterized by an amino acid sequence as given in SEQ ID NO:2, amino acids 330 to 828.
- The non-naturally occurring nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 encoding a stable 3. truncated Uve1p characterized by an amino acid sequence as given in SEQ ID NO:2, amino acids 458 to 828.
- A non-naturally occurring nucleic acid molecule encoding a stable truncated Uve1p 4. characterized by an amino acid sequence as given in SEQ ID NO:2, amino acids 518 to 828.
- The non-naturally occurring nucleic acid molecule of claim 3 encoding a stable 5. truncated Uvelp, wherein said stable truncated Uvelp is encoded by a nucleotide sequence as given in SEQ NO:3.
- The non-naturally occurring nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid 6. molecule is a vector molecule.
- A substantially purified stable truncated UV damage endonuclease (Uve1p) wherein 7. said Uve1p has amino acid sequence as given in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein its aminoterminus is between about amino acid 329 and about amino acid 479, and extends through amino acid 828 of SEQ ID NO:2.

- 8. The substantially purified stable truncated Uve1p of claim 7 wherein its amino acid sequence is as given in SEQ ID NO:2, amino acid 458 through amino acid 828.
- 9. The substantially purified stable truncated Uvelp of claim 8 further comprising a polypeptide portion identified by an amino acid sequence as given in SEQ ID NO:8 covalently joined at its amino terminus.
- 10. The substantially purified stable truncated Uvelp of claim 7 wherein said Uvelp has an amino acid sequence as given in SEQ ID NO:2, amino acid 33058 through amino acid 828.
- 11. The substantially purified stable truncated Uve1p of claim 10 further a polypeptide portion identified by an amino acid sequence as given in SEQ ID NO:8 covalently joined at its N-terminus.
- 12. A composition comprising a substantially purified stable truncated Uve1p of claim 7 and a pharmacologically acceptable carrier.
- 13. The composition of claim 12 wherein said truncated Uve1p has an amino acid sequence as given in SEQ ID NO:4.
- 14. The composition of claim 12 which is formulated for topical application to skin of a human or an animal.
- 15. The composition of claim 12 which is formulated for internal use in a human or an animal.